Thursday, June 11, 2009

Transportation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 32

Subject: Approve an ordinance repealing and replacing Chapter 12-3 of the City Code relating to Metered and Pay Station Parking.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Morris Poe, 974-1562, Leanne Vaughn, 974-5657

Boards and Commission Action: Reviewed by the Urban Transportation Commission.

The Austin Transportation Department is purchasing modernized parking pay station equipment to replace the failing single space parking meters. Pay station equipment offer customers the option of paying for parking with coins or credit and debit cards. This method of parking control also improves pedestrian mobility and streetscape appearance by eliminating the "picket fence" appearance of single space meters along the curb.

The proposed ordinance replaces the current Chapter 12-3 and includes requirements and procedures for parking at a pay station and meters. The proposed ordinance eliminates outdated and unnecessary sections of the City Code. Some of the requirements include:

Free meter parking for motorcycles and mopeds, limited to 12 hours a day.

Parking at malfunctioning meters.

15-minute minimum time purchase.

Continues authorization for the City traffic engineer to determine the appropriate location and time limit for the operation of parking meters and pay stations.

Continues the days of the week and hours of the day for the operation of parking meters and pay stations to be Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Continues authorization for time limit enforcement.

Continues free meter parking privileges for former Prisoners of War, Pearl Harbor survivors, and Purple Heart recipients. (State law provides free meter parking privileges for persons with a disability.)

Continues free meter parking holidays on New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

The Austin Transportation Department recommends approval of the ordinance.